

Mr. NUSSLE. I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I would say that on both sides of the aisle the staff are the unseen players in this process. They make an enormous effort, and we have a good working relationship on this committee, which we prize because we have mutual respect.

I would like to pay tribute to my staff who put a herculean effort to get this budget resolution on the floor through all the processes it has to go.

First, to my very able and loyal and energetic chief of staff, Tom Kahn; to Joe Minarik, who is our chief economist and is widely experienced; to Jim Klumpner, who is also an excellent economist on our staff; to Sheila McDowell; to Kimberly Overbeek, who is super with the numbers; to Andrea Weathers; to Linda Bywaters; to Arthur Burris, who is indefatigable; to Sarah Abernathy; and to Pepper Santalucia. I am looking at Antonio Santalucia and Pepper would not come to me. To some new additions to our staff: Mike McCord, who does defense work; Jennifer Friedman, who came over from OMB; Diana Meredith and Andy Smalian, a great group of people, a great team effort and very professional staff.

And last but not least, Lisa Venus, who has been with us for several years who is assistant counsel and a very, very able staff member who was here on the floor with us tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the chairman allowing me the opportunity to pay tribute to my staff and to the effort they put in to making the budget process work this year.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. Con. Res. 31. Concurrent resolution expressing the outrage of Congress at the treatment of certain American prisoners of war by the Government of Iraq; to the Committee on International Relations.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly an enrolled bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 273. An act to provide for the eradication and control of nutria in Maryland and Louisiana.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 380. An act to amend chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code, to reform the funding of benefits under the Civil Service Retirement System for employees of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 48 minutes a.m.), the House adjourned until today, Friday, April 11, 2003, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1753. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the National Defense Stockpile (NDS) Annual Materials Plan for FY 2004 along with revisions to the FY 03 Annual Materials Plan and AMPs for the succeeding four years, FY 05-08, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 98h-5; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1754. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's FY 2004 Summary of Amounts Report for Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) Programs in the former Soviet Union; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1755. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Distribution of DoD Depot Maintenance Workloads Fiscal Years 2001 and 2002"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1756. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a report prescribed in Section 709 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1757. A letter from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — TRICARE Program; Eligibility and Payment Procedures for Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services Beneficiaries Age 65 and Over (RIN: 0720-AA66) received April 8, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1758. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to the Kingdom of the Netherlands pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

1759. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's interim report entitled, "Interim Evaluation Report: Congressionally Mandated Evaluation of the State Children's Health Insurance Program, pursuant to Public Law 105-33, section 4901 (111 Stat. 567); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1760. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Air Quality Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants, State of West Virginia; Control of Emissions from Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incinerator Units [WV059-6027a; FRL-7479-9] received April 8, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1761. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Plan for Designated Facilities and Pollutants: Florida [FL-094-200316a; FRL-7481-8] received April 8, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1762. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Control of Emissions From New Nonroad Diesel Engines: Amendments to the Nonroad Engine Definition [AMS-FRL-7482-1] received April 8, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1763. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Nebraska: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision [FRL-7480-9] received April 8, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1764. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Oklahoma: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [FRL-7479-1] received April 8, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1765. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Tennessee: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision [FRL-7478-5] received April 8, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1766. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Text: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [FRL-7482-3] received April 8, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1767. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Utah: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision [FRL-7480-6] received April 8, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1768. A letter from the Legal Advisor, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Parts 2, 73, 74, 80, 90, and 97 of the Commission's Rules to Implement Decisions from World Radiocommunication Conferences Concerning Frequency Bands Below 28000 kHz [ET Docket No. 02-16] received April 7, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1769. A letter from the Under Secretary for Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Imposition of Foreign Policy Controls on Specially Designated Global Terrorists"; to the Committee on International Relations.

1770. A letter from the Under Secretary for Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Expansion of Foreign Policy-Based Controls on Explosives Detection Equipment"; to the Committee on International Relations.

1771. A letter from the Staff Director, Commission On Civil Rights, transmitting the Commission's FY 2002 Government Performance and Results Act Report; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1772. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Labor, transmitting the FY 2002 Annual Report on Performance and Accountability; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1773. A letter from the Secretary, Department of State, transmitting the Department's Performance and Accountability Report for FY 2002; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1774. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Service Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Circular 2001-13; Introduction — received April 7, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

1775. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Alabama Regulatory Program [AL-072-FOR] received April 7, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1776. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's biennial federal assistance report; to the Committee on Resources.

1777. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zones; Tampa Bay, Port of Tampa, Port of Saint Petersburg, Port Manatee, Rattlesnake, Old Port Tampa, Big Bend, Weedon Island, and Crystal River, FL [COTP Tampa-03-006] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 4, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1778. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Coronado Beach Bridge (SR 44), Intracoastal Waterway, New Smyrna Beach, Florida [CGD7-02-077] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received April 4, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1779. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Long Island, New York Inland Waterway from East Rockaway Inlet to Shinnecock Canal, NY [CGD01-03-024] received April 4, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1780. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operations Regulation; Nanticoke River, Seafood, DE [CGD05-02-020] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received April 4, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1781. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area, Safety and Security Zones; Long Island Sound Marine Inspection and Captain of the Port Zone [CGD01-01-187] (RIN: 2115-AA00, AA11) received April 4, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1782. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area; Kill Van Kull Channel, Newark Bay Channel, South Elizabeth Channel, Elizabeth Channel, Port Newark Channel and New Jersey Pierhead Channel, New York and New Jersey [CGD01-03-017] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received April 4, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1783. A letter from the Chairman, Office of the General Counsel, Surface Transportation

Board, transmitting the Board's final rule — Procedures to Expedite Resolution of Rail Rate Challenges to be Considered Under the Stand-Alone Cost Methodology (STB Ex Parte No. 638) received April 4, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1784. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Announcement and Report Concerning Advance Pricing Agreements (Announcement 2003-19) received April 2, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1785. A letter from the Regulations Officer, SSA, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Old-Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance; Repeal of the Facility-of-Payment Provision [Regulation No. 4] (RIN: 0960-AE02) received April 7, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1786. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's plan to implement legislation concerning the transfer of Montgomery GI Bill entitlements to family members, pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 3020 Public Law 107-107, section 654; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs.

1787. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a report on Outreach to Gulf War Veterans Calendar Year 2002; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs.

1788. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's seventh report describing the administration of the Montgomery GI Bill educational assistance program; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs.

1789. A letter from the Secretaries, Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs, transmitting a report on the implementation of the health resources sharing portion of the Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense Health Resources Sharing and Emergency Operations Act, pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 8111(f); jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs.

1790. A letter from the Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's annual report of the Chief Counsel for Advocacy on Implementation of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, Fiscal Year 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 612(a); jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary and Small Business.

1791. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Evaluation Results for Two Demonstrations: The Social Health Maintenance Organization (S/HMO) II Demonstration and the End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Managed Care Demonstration," pursuant to Public Law 98-369, section 2355(d)(1) and (2); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

1792. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, CMS, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medicare Program; Improvements to the MedicareChoice Appeal and Grievance Procedures [CMS-4024-FC] (RIN: 0938-AK48) received April 4, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk

for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. NUSSLE: Committee of Conference. Conference report on House Concurrent Resolution 95. Resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2003 and 2005 through 2013 (Rept. 108-71). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 191. Resolution waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 95) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2003 and 2005 through 2013 (Rept. 108-72). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mrs. MYRICK: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 192. Resolution waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (Rept. 108-73). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. VISCLOSKEY (for himself, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. FORD, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, and Mr. KANJORSKI):

H.R. 1708. A bill to extend the authorization of the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mr. DINGELL):

H.R. 1709. A bill to restore standards to protect the privacy of individually identifiable health information that were weakened by the August 2002 modifications, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FOLEY (for himself and Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts):

H.R. 1710. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore the full market basket percentage increase applied to payments to hospitals for inpatient hospital services furnished to Medicare beneficiaries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. OBERSTAR (for himself, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Mr. QUINN):

H.R. 1711. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to ensure that functions relating to the air traffic control system are carried out directly by the United States Government; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.